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Hastings to Serve on Manufacturing Council

Washington DC) NCTO Chairman David Hastings, CEO of Mount Vernon Mills, was appointed today as a member of the Manufacturing Council, the principal advisory group to the Secretary of Commerce on the United States manufacturing sector. Hastings is one of two CEO's from the Southeast that were appointed to the 24 member Council.

Hastings stated, "I look forward to working with Secretary Locke and the members of the Council to create national policies that support and drive US manufacturing. In particular, I want to focus my efforts on working to achieve trade, tax and financing policies that put US manufacturing on a level playing field with the rest of the world. I am convinced that US manufacturing, which is vital to our country's economic future, will rebound if the right policies are put into place in Washington."

At remarks today announcing the formation of the Council, Secretary Locke stated, "A vibrant manufacturing sector isn't just critical for the millions of Americans whose jobs depend on it," Locke said. "Manufacturing is absolutely central to driving the innovation that fuels the American economy." Locke also noted that the decline of the manufacturing workforce over the last decade is a key reason that wages have stagnated in the United States.

Hastings is the CEO of Mount Vernon Mills, Inc, a diversified and integrated manufacturer of textile, chemical and related products for the apparel, industrial, institutional, and commercial markets. Products include denim, piece dyed and flame retardant fabrics for apparel; pocketing; table linens and other hospitality products, textile sizing and finishing chemicals; paint roller fabrics and automotive fabrics.

Headquartered in Mauldin, South Carolina, Mount Vernon has about 2,600 employees and operates 14 production facilities in the U.S., located in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Texas.

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